

THE GALLANT TENTH CAVALRY —HATS OFF!

(This editorial closes Isaac Fisher's work on Tuskegee Farmer.)

Somewhere in the wilds of Mexico, without Christian burial but with bodies cold and stark upon the ground—bodies pierced by bullets of steel—under the withering heat by day and watched by the silent moon and stars by night, unpitied out there, save by a merciful God—somewhere in strife-torn Mexico, there rest in death the flower of the gallant Tenth Cavalry—Negro soldiers, who wore the uniform of the United States of America.

The Story of a Battle.

We have not all the facts (June 26); but on June 21, 1916, General Frederick Funston reported that "There was a clash this morning at Carrizal, near Villa Ahumada, between Carranza and American troops in which General Gomez and others were killed, the number unknown. The number of American killed or wounded unknown." The report further stated that the Americans were decaying into a trap by a flag of truce, and that it was believed that the American troops were the Tenth Cavalry.

On June 22, it became definitely known that troops C and K of the Tenth Cavalry, colored, were the American soldiers in the engagement and that they "held the field for five hours before retreating, although they were outnumbered 5 to 1."

On June 23, seven survivors of those engaged in the battle at Carrizal straggled into the American headquarters and General Pershing reported to our Government "that the American cavalry command engaged at Carrizal was the object of a treacherous attack by Carranza soldiers and virtually was wiped out."

The manner and cause of this "wiping out" is pertinent. Reaching a point within one mile of Carrizal on the morning of June 21, Captain Boyd, senior officer in command of troops C and K, sent a note to General Gomez, Mexican commander, asking permission to pass through the town. General Gomez requested a conference with Captain Boyd before making the request; and a flag of truce was raised while the two sides conferred.

Mark, now, although the truce should have prevented this, just as the conference concluded, a terrible Mexican machine gun began pouring a hail of bullets into the ranks of the Tenth Cavalry. Let the Associated Press finish the story:

"Captain Boyd had ordered his men to dismount as the machine gun opened fire, and the combined effort of the Mexican charge, the machine gun fire and the rifle fire from the Mexican garrison at Carrizal, which had almost surrounded the little American force under cover of the parley sought by General Gomez, stampeded the horses.

"With their mounts gone, caught without means of escape, ringed about on three sides with the fire of an overwhelming force the fate of the little detachment is believed by officers here to have been sealed.

"It is thought that only the most stupendous luck backed by desperate valor could have extricated Captain Boyd's men from the trap."

Since these reports, we have had very little real news as to how many of our boys were massacred; but we know that the flower of the command have been sent to their death or disabled.

How Did They Die? How Fight?

How did these soldiers die? They died as they had lived since they put on the uniform—like brave men. They have been praised again and again for their bravery, soldierly qualities and great value to the service of the United States. But let's read the record:

General Pershing (leading the expedition into Mexico) reported that the troops under Captain Boyd and Captain Moray showed the greatest courage and exhibited the most sterling fighting qualities."

Said another message from the American field headquarters:

"Trapped and fighting against heavy odds, the troops of the Tenth Cavalry, engaged at Carrizal on Wednesday, charged twice directly into the jaws of the ambush which the Mexicans had laid for them."

But there is still another tribute, which we must preserve for all times. Speaking of the bloody battle of the Alamo and the brave Americans who, trapped like rats, gave their lives there for their country, the editor of the Atlanta Constitution declares that the stand those white Americans made at that bloody place "will ever be recorded as one of the most notable heroic incidents of world history."

Now mark the following tribute from that writer:

"And so it seems that Carrizal is to become another Alamo! With the same trap, the same heroic defense, the same display of American heroism and, no doubt—the same outcome!

Unwept? No! Unhonored? No!

Unsung? No! This is my last editorial on The Negro Farmer and Messenger and, under a high sense of obligation to those who shall live after me, of my

own race, I am devoting these lines to the duty of recording the race's sense of appreciation of the deeds of these colored soldiers whose death and bravery have conferred distinction and honor upon their race.

The bodies of our soldier dead are festering where they fell in an alien land; but I serve notice upon the world that those dead are not unwept. The news of their massacre laid hold upon the hearts of the colored people of this country. I spoke of their passing to a colored man, and the lines about his mouth tightened and he turned away from me that I might not see the tears that stole down his face. I spoke to a colored matron of my pride in the fact that since they had to die, they died like men; and this gentle woman could find no words, amidst her tears, except these: "And the pity of it all is that they died in the service of a country which does not care and whose injustice to their race must ever be the reproach of the United States!"

I asked the Dean of Women here to call three girls into the parlor of the building that I might get them to pose for the picture on the front cover of this paper; and when I talked to them and told them that it was our duty to remember the patriotism of these soldier dead, all the smiles left their faces and in their hearts they were shedding tears for their heroes dead out in storm-torn Mexico.

We colored people weep for the gallant dead of the Tenth Cavalry for we loved them and the record they have made.

What Honors?

Somewhere in this broad land there ought to be a monument erected to the memory of these men. Their death has reflected glory upon us. We must not and we will not forget them. The story of how they died and the country for which they died should be told in every colored schoolhouse, in every church, in every secret order, in every colored newspaper. They have honored us. We must honor them.

We Shall Sing Their Glory.

Around the beautiful city of Vicksburg, Mississippi, are monuments that have been erected by the different States whose troops fought and died there in the memorable siege of Vicksburg. There are none there for the Negro patriots who fell; and there are few anywhere. Certainly, few, if any States will erect monuments to the patriots of my race—it is the honor of the world not to do so—so much the worse for the world. But we colored men and women must sing the praises of these of our race who give "the last full measure of devotion" to their country. We can sing; we must sing until our children learn that we are not ungrateful.

Once More—How Did They Die?

I believe that the Negro must answer his country's call; but I do not forget the evergrowing number of colored people who are beginning to waver in their loyalty to this Government—the number who keep asking—Why? to what end? what's the use? I am sorry that my country—yes, this is my country, I have no other—I am sorry that my country regards so lightly the fidelity and patriotism of the black man; and there is too much bitterness and resentment growing in the hearts of Negroes against American injustices for me to say that the country may always count upon the loyalty of the Negro.

But—

I am glad that the Tenth Cavalry has cheerfully carried the brunt of the work being done in Mexico; I am glad that when serious work was to be done, the Tenth was usually sent to do it; I am glad that they proved themselves patriots, not grumbling malcontents, but patriots and true soldiers; and I am glad that when they looked death in the face the last time at Carrizal, they were still thinking of their country, my country, our country, and if any thought of American caste, American proscriptio, American bitterness toward them flitted across their minds, it was lost in the higher, finer, nobler, more patriotic thought that they were serving their country.

It is hinted that somebody blundered—

Their's not to reason why,

Their's but to do and die.

They were soldiers. They fought like soldiers, they obeyed like soldiers, they died like soldiers.

The Last Word.

A grateful race will enshrine their deeds and will present the gallant Tenth Cavalry to history that their deeds may be written upon her roll of fame. God rest in peace those who fell at Carrizal in defense of country and for their race's honor.

ISAAC FISHER.

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By N. BARNETT MUMFORD.
New York.—The Abyssinian Baptist church in this city, of which the Rev. Dr. A. Clayton Powell is the capable and highly esteemed pastor, recently closed a ten days' celebration of its one hundred and sixth anniversary. Some of the most able clergymen and laymen of the race took part in the anniversary exercises. Inspiring and scholarly sermons were delivered by Revs. H. H. Warring, W. J. Lucas, W. M. Moss, W. H. Brooks, W. P. Hayes, W. H. Harrod and S. W. Thomas.

Mr. Watt Tarry, the young real estate operator of Brockton, Mass., who is reported to be worth nearly a million dollars, and Hon. Fred H. Moore urged the race to save money and go into business. One of the features of the celebration was a recital of sacred music by an orchestra of fifty members from the Martin-Smith music school. Never before was a sacred concert held on so large a scale seen in a church among our people in this city.

The pastor and officers asked for \$2,000 during the celebration. Up to the fourth Sunday in November \$2,040 had been reported, and some auxiliaries were to be heard from. This church has a unique and admirable method of conducting its activities. The prayer meetings, revival services and financial rallies are conducted by the eleven auxiliaries. It is the business of two of these auxiliaries to help



REV. DR. A. CLAYTON POWELL.

NEWS AND NOTES.

Madam Mae Caesar Porter, prima donna and character (child) singer appeared in Muskogee and captivated her audience. Madam Porter is an artist and shiner as a star of the first magnitude. A large appreciative audience greeted her at First Baptist church last Thursday night and repeatedly encored her.

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY STAR BOOK

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BAPTISTS HOLD PEACE MEETING

Plans Formed to Reunite the
National Body.

CAUSE OF THE SEPARATION

Largest Organization of the Denomination Split at Convention Held in Chicago in 1915 Over Management of Material Enterprises—Harmony Between the Leaders Is Sought.

Washington.—At a meeting held at the Mount Carmel Baptist church in this city in February steps were taken by a group of members of the national Baptist convention, which split at an annual convention held in Chicago, 1915, to bring about a reunion of the warring factions. A peace movement was organized, with the Rev. Dr. W. H. Jernagin, minister of the above named church, as president and Miss Naomi H. Burroughs, president of the National Training School for Women and Girls at Lincoln heights in this city, as secretary.

Two decades ago Negro Baptists in session in Atlanta, Ga., by uniting the Baptist foreign mission convention of the United States, the national Baptist convention and the national Baptist educational convention, took at one stride a longer step forward in the right direction than any race group of similar size has perhaps ever taken



MISS N. H. BURROUGHS.

This advanced step was taken by the fathers that we might be able to do more effectively mission work in America, in Africa and elsewhere abroad, to foster the cause of education and to promote the publication and circulation of religious literature. Prominent Baptists now say:

HOW TUTS. REGARD DOCTOR

Reason for Patient's Affection Was Not at All C. S. Elementary to Physician.

A Chicago physician gracefully tells a child story as his own suspense. The five children of some faithful patients had measles, and during their rather long stay in the improvised home hospital they never failed to greet him daily with pleased exclamations. The good doctor felt duly flattered, but rashly pressed the children, in the days of convalescence, for the reason of this sudden affection. At last the youngest and most indiscreet let slip the bitter truth.

"We felt so sick that we wanted awfully to do something naughty, but we were afraid to be bad for fear you and the nurse would give us more horrible medicine. So we were awfully glad to see you, always, 'cause you made us stick out our tongues. We stuck 'em out awful far!"

Another laughable "doctor" story, told with little Edna, who played mother with such realistic enthusiasm that her immediate maternal anxiety or one day found the child weeping violently over a supposedly defunct doll.

"If dear Auntie had died and gone up to heaven," the child mourned, "be ween schwa."

"What was the matter with her?" queried the sympathetic but somewhat perplexed listener.

"She had the doctor dreadful," came the surprising reply.

CONSUMPTION AND THE GOSPEL

Religion and the White Plague.

Sin's Relationship to Sickness and Death—"The Wages of Sin is Death." Man's Battle Against the Curse a Losing One—"In God is Thy Help." The Result Will Be Glorious.



New York, December 7.—Pastor Russell, speaking from the platform of the new City Temple to a crowded house, announced his text from Lamentations 26:16: "I will even appoint over you terror, consumption, and the burning plague, that shall consume (before) the eyes, and cause sorrow of heart."

His topic was chosen in harmony with the movement against consumption, the white plague, which he declared is annually sweeping more millions into the grave than are all the world's wars. While the Pastor's commission is to preach the Gospel, nevertheless, since it is the Divine arrangement for recovery from sin and death, he considered it eminently proper to call attention to the ravages of the white plague as part of sin's penalty. He would not be understood as meaning that all consumptives are especially sinners, for some of God's most saintly people have died of consumption and other ailments. The Redeemer Himself died of a ruptured heart, a disease not unknown to medical practice.

The speaker declared that much confusion prevails amongst Christians, respecting sickness and health. "We have the Bible instruction that sickness is a part of the death penalty inherited from our first parents on account of their disobedience. It seems natural to think that after we have turned from sin and have created our lives to God, He would store us fully to overlasting life in happy conditions. When we find the same of God's best people, including the Saviour, the Apostles and the Prophets, have suffered, even unto death, and that none are immune from this penalty, a perplexity arises that only the Bible sets straight.

The Old Covenant and the New.

The Pastor then discussed God's Covenants with Israel. God first announced to Abraham His ultimate purpose of blessing mankind—releasing them from the curse of sin and death. God did not explain how this would be done, except that it would be through Abraham's posterity, or "Seed." Four hundred years later, God proposed to the Israelites that if they wished to inherit the Promise made to Abraham, the door was open for them. God

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